Falmouth Recycling and Energy Advisory Committee (REAC)

"Energy News You Can Use" Volume 6, Issue 11, November 2018 – Falmouth, Maine

- > How do you live sustainably in the Fall season? How do you prepare for the colder days ahead?
- Any ideas how Falmouth can be more sustainable? Use less energy? Generate less waste? We'd love to hear your ideas! Contact your Energy and Sustainability Coordinator, Kimberly Darling at kdarling@falmouthme.org with your thoughts and suggestions.

Calendar of Local Green Events-November 2018

Event	Date/Time/Location	Description
Wild and Scenic Film Festival	November 3 Doors open at 3pm USM Abromson Center 88 Bedford St., Portland	Friends of Casco Bay are hosting their 11 th annual Wild and Scenic Film Festival, bringing together story-tellers whose stories reflect a love and appreciation for the natural world. The Festival is a benefit for Friends of Casco Bay's work to keep Casco Bay healthy. Advanced tickets for the event are sold out, but you still have opportunity to buy tickets at the door—which will be sold first come, first served. More information <u>can be found here.</u>
Riverside Recycling Facility Hazardous Waste Collection	November 3 7:00am-1:00pm 910 Riverside St., Portland	Riverside Recycling Facility accepts hazardous waste at their facility to all Maine residents. Customers without an Ecard will be charged \$6.50 per gallon for liquid waste or \$3.50 per pound for solid wastes. Paint, stain and varnishes can be collected at no charge—and collected anytime at the Falmouth Woods Road Transfer Station as part of the PaintCare program. For more information on how the drop off program works, please visit <u>this page</u> .
2018 and the Future of Maine's Environment Natural Resources Council of Maine	November 8 5:30pm USM Glickman Library, 7 th floor 314 Forest Ave., Portland	Although NRCM cannot by law get involved in candidate elections, they have a strong interest in the results—and, this year's races are certain to affect Maine's environment, no matter who wins. Come to hear remarks from NRCM's CEO Lisa Pohlmann and their Advocacy Director, Pete Didisheim who will share their thoughts on what the elections could mean for the future of Maine's clean water, air, forest and wildlife. Seating is limited, so <u>RSVP here.</u>

Falmouth/Cumberland WindowDressers Community Build	November 10-12 9:00am-5:00pm Mason-Motz Activity Center 190 Middle Rd., Falmouth	Join us in giving back to the community on November 10-12 at the WindowDressers Community Build. Come help assemble custom made interior window-inserts that have been measured for customers over the last couple of months in this hands-on production! Volunteers can help with a variety of tasks which require no specific training ahead of time—we'll show you the ropes! We will be assembling over 200 window inserts in these three days. Please contact Kimberly Darling (information above), or simply sign up by <u>following this link.</u>
Solar Open House— Cumberland Foreside	November 10 9:00-11:00am 106 Ravine Dr., Cumberland	Join ReVision Energy and Legacy Properties Sotheby's International Realty at 106 Ravine Drive for an Open House. Stop by anytime from 9 to 11 to tour this beautiful home. A 7.6 kW solar array powers this 4-bedroom house with water views. A representative from ReVision will be on hand to answer any questions about clean solar energy. For more information, contact Jill at <u>imclaughlin@revisionenergy.com</u> or follow <u>this link</u> .

Energy News

Falmouth Updates Plan to Reduce Use of Fossil Fuels—Just over a decade ago, Falmouth was among hundreds of communities across the nation that signed the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement, vowing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to help curb the effects of climate change. An update to that Plan has been completed with the primary goal to "enhance efficiencies in municipal operations by being committed to reducing fossil fuel use …, integrating renewable energy when feasible, and implementing waste reduction and diversion practices." To read the full article, <u>follow this link</u>.

Maine Switched to Cleaner Burning, Cheaper Heating Oil—Maine environmental officials say ultra-low sulfur heating oil will burn cleaner and lower heating costs. The Portland Press Herald reports the state switched to the oil in July following extensive planning. According to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the new fuel will cut sulfur dioxide emissions by about 1,300 tons a year. Homeowners are expected to save on annual cleaning costs for equipment as well. Read more <u>at this link</u>.

In Other News ...

Falmouth may Take a Fresh Look at Trash Disposal—Right now trash and recyclables are picked up manually and placed in a collection truck by employees of Pine Tree Waste. Many homeowners also still drop off their own trash and recyclables at the transfer station. The Town is going to "do some initial outreach at the elections on Nov. 6 (and) this information will be accompanied by an online survey, which we haven't finalized quite yet. We won't know next steps until we have a substantial data set and a clearer directive from the council," according to Town staff. <u>Read the full story here.</u>

Green Consumer Tips & How-To's



- 1. Plan, Plan, Plan
- 2. Less Turkey, More Sides
 - 3. Buy Organic
- 4. Keep Your Traveling Footprint Down
 - 5. Make it a No-Waste Event
 - 6. Donate to Food Pantries
- Listen to Your Stomach, Not Your Eyes
 8. Save Scraps and Compost
 - 9. Leftovers are Your Best Friends 10. Give Thanks for the Planet

For more detail on each of these tips, follow this link.

Please remember, DO NOT recycle items you shouldn't!

When in doubt, throw it out! Visit ecomaine's <u>RECYCLOPEDIA</u> if you have questions or contact your Sustainability Coordinator at <u>kdarling@falmouthme.org</u> or call 699-5337.

REAC'S Mission: The Town of Falmouth Energy and Recycling Advisory Committee advises the Falmouth Town Council on matters relating to the town's solid waste recycling program, energy efficiency and other related matters deemed appropriate by the Council. Duties shall include but not be limited to the following: (1) Endeavor to save local taxpayer dollars through increased energy-efficiency of municipal facilities and operations; (2) Prioritize the ad hoc Falmouth Green Ribbon Committee's 2010 recommendations that the Council wants to pursue; (3) Educate Falmouth residents and businesses about energy-efficient, waste-reducing, clean energy opportunities and choices; (4) Enhance and promote the town's recycling program; (5) Promote the use of clean, renewable energy sources in Falmouth's public and private facilities through education and outreach; (6) Work with surrounding communities on potential regional energy efficiency and clean energy strategies; (7) Monitor new developments and options in the fields of energy and waste management as technologies evolve and change; educate the public and advise the Council on same; (8) Research and report policies to accomplish the above goals and/or other related goals deemed appropriate by the Town Council.